

WORKING GROUP ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST & SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY

Objectives:

The Working Group on Conflict of Interest & Scientific Integrity explores issues related to conflict of interest and scientific integrity and works to call attention to and stimulate discussion on these topics to help ensure and enhance the integrity of scientific food and nutrition literature. The Working Group achieves its goals by publishing guidelines and scholarly papers in peer-reviewed journals, analyzing the existing literature by category, and organizing workshops and symposia.

Working Group Activities:

How Professionals are Chosen for Expert Panels: Can the Process be Improved?

Due to the growing complexity of the interactions among government, industry, and academic research institutions, ever-more stringent conflict-of-interest policies may have the effect of barring the most experienced and knowledgeable nutrition and food scientists from contributing their expertise on expert panels. The Working Group explored this issue in some depth through a review of the practices of professional societies, voluntary health organizations, foundations, government, the National Academies, and international bodies. A scholarly paper proposes a set of principles determining considerations for service on expert advisory committees and calls for a boarder discussion in all sectors of the research community on whether the process might be improved. The paper is being submitted for publication.

The most recent activity underway by the working group will address “best practices” for building and sustaining public-private partnerships to advance public health.

Committee Members:

Cargill, Incorporated
The Coca-Cola Company
ConAgra Foods, Inc.
Dr. Pepper Snapple Group
General Mills
The Hershey Company
Kellogg Company
Kraft Foods Inc.
Mars, Incorporated
McNeill Nutritionals, LLC
PepsiCo Inc.
Tate & Lyle

Staff Contacts:

Alison Kretser, MS, RD
Senior Science Program Manager
ILSI North America
1156 15 St., NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: 202.659.0074
Fax: 202.659.3859
akretser@ilsa.org

Science Advisors and Liaisons:

David Allison, PhD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Stephanie Atkinson, PhD
McMaster University
Fergus Clydesdale, PhD
University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Michael Doyle, PhD
University of Georgia
Johanna Dwyer, DSc, RD
Tufts Medical Center
John Erdman, PhD
University of Illinois
James Hill, PhD
University of Colorado
Joanne Lupton, PhD
Texas A&M University
Susan Offutt, PhD
*U.S. Government
Accountability Office*
Robert Steele, PhD
*The Pennsylvania State
University*

